

REMARKS

The present amendment is responsive to the Final Office Action dated June 30, 2006.

Reexamination and reconsideration of the above-identified application, pursuant to and consistent with 37 C.F.R. § 1.116, and in light of the amendments and remarks that follow, are respectfully requested. Because the present claims are believed to be in condition for allowance over the cited art, good cause exists for the entry of this amendment in accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.116.

The Examiner indicated that claims 2-9, 11-21 and 23-40 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

The Applicants thank the Examiner for the allowable subject matter. In accordance with the Examiner's statement regarding the allowable subject matter, claims 2 and 6 have been rewritten in independent form to include the limitations of claim 1. Accordingly, claim 1 has been canceled. Likewise, claim 11 has been rewritten in independent form to include the limitations of claim 10. Accordingly, claim 10 has been canceled. In a similar manner, claims 23, 27, 29, 31, 37 and 40 have been rewritten in independent form to include the limitations of claim 22. Accordingly, claim 22 has been canceled. Thus, independent claims 2, 6, 11, 23, 27, 29, 31, 37 and 40 along with claims dependent therefrom (i.e., claims 3-5, 7-9, 12-21, 24-26, 28, 32-36, 38-39 and 41-42) are believed to be allowable.

In view of the above, each of the presently pending claims in this application is believed to be in immediate condition for allowance. Accordingly, the Examiner is respectfully requested to pass this application to issue.

If, however, for any reason the Examiner does not believe that such action can be taken at this time, it is respectfully requested that he/she telephone applicant's attorney at (908) 654-5000 in order to overcome any additional objections which he might have.

If there are any additional charges in connection with this requested amendment, the Examiner is authorized to charge Deposit Account No. 12-1095 therefor.

Dated: September 27, 2006

Respectfully submitted,

By   
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